Christian Register.

DEVOTED TO UNITARIAN CHRISTIANITY, SOUND MORALS, LITERATURE, AND NEWS.

"AND WHY EVEN OF YOURSELVES JUDGE YE NOT WHAT IS RIGHT?"——LUKE xii. 57.

VOL. XI. BOSTON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1832. NO. 1.

RELIGIOUS MISCELLANY.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES—NO. XIV.

REV. ROBERT WALKER.

The following memoir of Rev. Robert Walker, a clergyman of the Episcopal establishment, in a village of Lancashire, England, who was living at the close of the last century, presents a most extraordinary picture of Christian simplicity, and frugality; and exhibits at the same time so edifying a pattern of disinterestedness and fidelity as a pastor, that we are sure our readers will peruse it with pleasure. It is taken from the Notes to "Wordsworth's Sonnets on the river Duddon," and was copied somewhat more than ten years since into the Christian Disciple, New series, No. 15. We refer our readers to that publication for those parts of this beautiful memoir, which the limits of a weekly paper compel us to omit.

In the year 1709, Robert Walker was born at Under-crag in Seathwaite; he was the youngest of twelve children. His eldest brother, who inherited the small family estate, died at Under-crag, aged ninetyfour, being twentyfour years older than the subject of this memoir, who was born of the same mother. Robert was a sickly infant; and, through his boyhood and youth, continuing to be of delicate frame and tender health, it was deemed best, according to the country phrase, to *breed him a scholar*; for it was not likely that he would be able to earn a livelihood by bodily labor. At that period few of these dales were furnished with school houses; the children being taught to read and write in the chapel; and in the same consecrated building, where he officiated for so many years both as preacher and schoolmaster, he himself received the rudiments of his education. In his youth he became schoolmaster at Lowes-water; not being called upon, probably, in that situation, to teach more than reading, writing, and arithmetic. But, by the assistance of a "Gentleman" in the neighborhood, he acquired, at leisure hours, a knowledge of the classics, and became qualified for taking holy orders. Upon his ordination, he had the offer of two curacies; the one, Torver, in the vale of Coniston,—the other, Seathwaite, in his native vale. The value of each was the same, viz. five pounds per annum: but the cure of Seathwaite having a cottage attached to it, as he wished to marry, he chose it in preference. The young person on whom his affections were affixed, though in the condition of a domestic servant, had given promise, by her serious and modest deportment, and by her virtuous dispositions, that she was worthy to become the help-mate of a man entering upon a plan of life such as he had marked out for himself. By her frugality she had stored up a small sum of money, with which they began housekeeping. In 1735 or 1736 he entered upon his curacy; and, nineteen years afterwards, his situation is thus described, in some letters to be found in the Annual Register for 1760, from which the following is extracted.

To Mr ———.

"*Coniston, July* 26, 1754.

"Sir,—I was the other day upon a party of pleasure, about five or six miles from this place, where I met with a very striking object, and of a nature not very common. Going into a clergyman's house (of whom I had frequently heard) I found him sitting at the head of a long square table, such as is commonly used in this country by the lower class of people, dressed in a coarse blue frock, trimmed with black horn buttons; a checked shirt, a leathern strap about his neck for a stock, a coarse apron, and a pair of great wooden-soled shoes, plated with iron to preserve them, (what we call clogs in these parts,) with a child upon his knee eating his breakfast; his wife, and the remainder of his children, were some of them employed in waiting on each other, the rest in teazing and spinning wool, at which trade he is a great proficient; and moreover, when it is made ready for sale, will lay it by sixteen, or thirtytwo pounds weight, upon his back, and on foot, seven or eight miles, will carry it to the market, even in the depth of winter. I was not much surprized at all this, as you may possibly be, having heard a great deal of it related before. But I must confess myself astonished with the alacrity and the good humor that appeared both in the clergyman and his wife, and more so, at the sense and ingenuity of the clergyman himself." * *

Then follows a letter, from another person, dated 1755, from which an extract shall be given.

"By his frugality and good management, he keeps the wolf from the door, as we say; and if he advances a little in the world, it is owing more to his own care, than to anything else he has to rely upon. I don't find his inclination is running after further preferment. He is settled among the people that are happy among themselves; and lives in the greatest unanimity and friendship with them; and, I believe the minister and people are exceedingly satisfied with each other; and indeed how should they be dissatisfied, when they have a person of so much worth and probity for their pastor! A man, who, for his candor and meekness, his sober, chaste, and virtuous conversation, his soundness in principle and practice, is an ornament to his profession, and an honor to the country he is in; and bear with me if I say, the plainness of his dress, the sanctity of his manners, the simplicity of his doctrine, and the vehemence of his expression, have a sort of resemblance to the pure practice of primitive Christianity."

We will now give his own account of himself, to be found in the same place.

"*From the Rev. Robert Walker.*

"Sir,—Yours of the 26th inst. was communicated to me by Mr C———, and I should have returned an immediate answer, but the hand of Providence then lying heavy upon an amiable pledge of conjugal endearment, hath since taken from me a promising girl, which the disconsolate mother too pensively laments the loss of; though we have yet eight living, all healthful, hopeful children, whose names and ages are as follows: Zaccheus, aged almost eighteen years; Elizabeth, sixteen years and ten months; Mary, fifteen; Moses, thirteen years and three months; Sarah, ten years and three months; Mabel, eight years and three months; William Tyson, three years and eight months; and Anne Esther, one year three months; besides Anne who died two years and six months ago, and was then aged between nine and ten; and Eleanor, who died the 23d inst. January, aged six years and ten months. Zaccheus, the eldest child, is now learning the trade of tanner, and has two years and a half of his apprenticeship to serve. The annual income of my chapel at present, as near as I can compute it, may amount to about £17 10s. of which is paid in cash, viz. £5 from the bounty of Queen Anne, and £5 from W. P. Esq. of P———, out of the annual rents, he being lord of the manor, and £3 from the several inhabitants of L———, settled upon the tenements as a rent-charge; the house and gardens I value at £4 yearly, and not worth more; and, I believe the surplice fees and voluntary contributions, one year with another, may be worth £3; but, as the inhabitants are few in number, and the fees very low, this last-mentioned sum consists merely in free-will offerings.

"I am situated greatly to my satisfaction with regard to the conduct and behaviour of my auditory, who not only live in the happy ignorance of the follies and vices of the age, but in mutual peace and good-will with one another, and are seemingly (I hope really too) sincere Christians, and sound members of the Established Church, not one dissenter of any denomination being amongst them all. I got to the value of £40 for my wife's fortune, but had no real estate of my own, being the youngest son of twelve children, born of obscure parents; and though my income has been but small, and my family large, yet, by a providential blessing upon my own diligent endeavors, the kindness of friends, and a cheap country to live in, we have always had the necessaries of life. By what I have written (which is a true and exact account to the best of my knowledge) I hope you will not think your favor to me, out of the late worthy Dr Stratford's effects, quite misbestowed, for which I must ever gratefully own myself, Sir, your much obliged and most obedient humble servant, "R. W. Curate of S——.

To Mr C——, of Lancaster."

About the time when this letter was written, the Bishop of Chester recommended the scheme of joining the curacy of Ulpha to the contiguous one of Seathwaite, and the nomination was offered to Mr Walker; but an unexpected difficulty arising, Mr W. in a letter to the Bishop, (a copy of which, in his own beautiful hand-writing, now lies before me,) thus expresses himself: "If he," meaning the person in whom the difficulty originated, "had suggested any such objection before, I should utterly have declined any attempt to the curacy of Ulpha; indeed, I was always apprehensive it might be disagreeable to my auditory at Seathwaite, as they have been always accustomed to double duty, and the inhabitants of Ulpha despair of being able to support a schoolmaster who is not curate there also; which suppressed all thoughts in me of serving them both." And in a second letter to the Bishop he writes:

"My Lord,—I have the favor of yours of the 1st inst., and am exceedingly obliged on account of the Ulpha affair; if that curacy should lapse into your Lordship's hands, I would beg leave rather to decline than embrace it; for the chapels of Seathwaite and Ulpha annexed together would be apt to cause a general discontent among the inhabitants of both places; by either thinking themselves slighted, being only served alternately, or neglected in the duty, or attributing it to covetousness in me; all which occasions of murmuring I would willingly avoid." And in concluding his former letter, he expresses a similar sentiment upon the same occasion, "desiring, if it be possible, however, as much as in me lieth, to live peaceably with all men."

The year following, the curacy of Seathwaite was again augmented; and to effect this augmentation, fifty pounds had been advanced by himself; and in 1760, lands were purchased with eight hundred pounds. Scanty as was his income, the frequent offer of much better benefices could not tempt Mr W. to quit a situation where he had been so long happy, with a consciousness of being useful.

Here follows in the memoir, a letter from Mr Walker to his diocesan, the Archbishop of York, dated in 1775, twenty years after his refusal of preferment for himself, but recommending to ordination and to the kindness of the Bishop one of his sons, whom at great domestic sacrifices he had educated at the University, and qualified for the ministry. His parental character is presented in this letter in the most engaging manner.

The same man, who was thus liberal in the education of his numerous family, was even munificent in hospitality as a parish priest. Every Sunday were served, upon the long table, at which he has been described sitting with a child upon his knee, messes of broth, for the refreshment of those of his congregation who came from a distance, and usually took their seats as parts of his own household. It seems scarcely possible that this custom could have commenced before the augmentation of his cure; and, what would to many have been a high price of self-denial, was paid, by the pastor and his family, for this gratification; as the treat could only be provided by dressing at one time the whole, perhaps, of their weekly allowance of fresh animal food; consequently, for a succession of days, the table was covered with cold victuals only. His generosity in old age may be still further illustrated by a little circumstance relating to an orphan grandson, then ten years of age, which I find in a copy of a letter to one of his sons; he requests that half-a-guinea may be left for "little Robert's pocket money," who was then at school; entrusting it to the care of a lady, who, as he says, "may sometimes frustrate his squandering it away foolishly," and promising to send him an equal allowance annually for the same purpose. The conclusion of the same letter is so characteristic, that I cannot forbear to transcribe it. "We," meaning his wife and himself, "are in our wonted state of health, allowing for the hasty strides of old age knocking daily at our door, and threateningly telling us, we are not only mortal, but must expect ere long to take our leave of our ancient cottage, and lie down in our last dormitory. Pray pardon my neglect to answers yours: let us hear sooner from you, to augment the mirth of the Christmas holidays. Wishing you all the pleasures of the approaching season, I am, dear son, with lasting sincerity, yours affectionately,

"ROBERT WALKER."

* * * * *

From the vice of avarice, he was entirely free. When very young, having kept a diary of his expenses, however trifling, the large amount, at the end of the year, surprised him; and from that time the rule of his life was to be economical, not avaricious. At his decease, he left behind him no less a sum than £2000, and such a sense of his various excellencies was prevalent in the country, that the epithet of WONDERFUL is to this day attached to his name.

INTELLECTUAL CULTIVATION, THE DUTY OF ALL MINISTERS.

The following sound and judicious remarks on the necessity of faithful study, and diligent intellectual cultivation in ministers, wherever their lot may be cast, are extracted from an excellent article in the last number of the "Christian Spectator." We cordially concur in the wise and elevated views of ministerial duty, which it is the design of that article to encourage.

We shall without hesitation pronounce it a great mistake for ministers in any country, new as well as old, to regard themselves as bound by strong necessity, to devote that time to secular calculations and manual labor, which the cultivation of their minds and the improvement of their hearers demand. On every preacher who falls into this mistake, we cannot help looking with compassion and regret. The resources of his mind must run to waste. His intellectual energies must gradually be reduced. At every step in his official course, his skill and power in doing good will probably be diminished. His hold upon the respect, esteem, and confidence of those, with whom he is connected, he must expect, will be relaxed. As his mind acts in his official labors with less and less decision and effect, the thought he employs, and the motives he presents, will impress the minds of others with diminished force. His influence must be reduced,—his usefulness impaired. His prospect of deriving support from his people, must of course be constantly growing more dark and discouraging. The history of the church too clearly proves, that these views are derived, not from the figments of the imagination, but from the sober realities of life. Wherever they may expect to labor, at the West or at the East, to those who are about to ascend the pulpit, affectionately would we say; *that course of conduct, which is adapted to give you the strongest hold upon the mind of those around you, is best adapted to secure a supply for your temporal necessities.* The manual labor, which is necessary to preserve your health and invigorate your frames, you have a right to turn to the highest possible account. But beyond this, beware of diverting any strength to secular pursuits, which you might give to your sacred studies and your official engagements. "Make full proof of your ministry." Raise your desires and adjust your movements to an elevated standard of skill, ability and usefulness, and rest assured you will find yourselves sustained. Your labors will be sought and prized. A strong hand you will be enabled to fasten on those, who listen to your instructions; and you will witness with surprize the efforts they will make to provide for your wants, and retain your services. When has the Saviour been known to desert a minister, who cordially, strenuously, and untiringly devoted all his powers, and resources to the extension of the "kingdom of heaven?"

JUSTIFICATION.

The following remarks are from "The Philanthropist," for Dec. 3., a periodical published at Ithica, N. Y.

Trinitarians would have us contend for the deity of Christ, because a being less than God could not have atoned for the sins of the world; and without an atonement they tell us we can have no hope of justification in the sight of God.

There is an important principle involved in this. What is justification? Does God justify us for what we are? or for what some other being has done?

There is no mystery in justification. God is truth. It is impossible for God to lie. When he pronounces a man just, that man must be just; for God will not, he cannot, call him so when he is not. God speaks the truth; he will never pronounce me a just man while I am a sinner; he will not justify me, and receive me as holy till I am so. The matter is plain then. Let man be just and God will justify him.

The second question is answered. God justifies us for what we are, or because we are just, not for what some other being has done. Where then is the argument for the Deity of Christ?

But has Christ done nothing? Made he no atonement? What atonement was needed? Who needed it? God did not. He is unchangeable. His nature is love. He is, always was, and always will be gracious. When he made his creatures, he loved them, pronounced them very good. He loves them now. That love is undying. It is higher than the heavens, broader than the earth, deeper than hell, many waters cannot quench it, all the floods cannot drown it. He needed no precious holocaust to make him look with compassion on man—no dying groans, no spectacle of bleeding innocence and suffering gods to prompt him to our rescue. It was always just for him to pardon the penitent and justify the just, to accept the holy. There was, then, no legal obstacle to remove, no divine wrath to appease, no love from God to man to purchase. God was always right—he wanted no atonement. Did Christ make none?

Did man need one? what did he need? God was right, but man was wrong. God was gracious, but man was not; God loved man, but man loved not God. There was the difficulty. God required man to be just before he would justify him. But such man was not. Such it was necessary he should be, before he could be happy. Whatever Christ did was done for man—done to remove no legal fiction—no obstacle on the part of God, but the difficulties which existed on the part of man. We, not God, received the atonement, which was not a satisfaction paid to divine justice, but a commendation of our Father's love to us. "God commendeth his love towards us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us."

But we dislike the term atonement. As that word is now used it detracts from the goodness of God, destroys the freeness of grace, and places us under obligation only to the Son who purchased the divine love, not to the Father who sold it. We prefer the term *reconciliation*, as being more congenial with the original term and more expressive of the real objects of Christ. Man was not reconciled to God, was not just, was not in conformity to the truth, was not holy, it makes no difference which term you use; while such, he could not enjoy the Divine Goodness, he could not appreciate his Father's love, nor enjoy the bounties of Providence, consequently must be miserable. Christ came to remove this difficulty. He came a messenger from the throne of love; he bore in his right hand the green olive-branch, emblem of peace from God to the world, with his left he pointed to the volume of moral righteousness; he bade man read, obey, and be happy.

We are indeed justified through the merits of Christ; not that his obedience is imputed to us, and that his sufferings atoned literally for our sins; but, because what he did, taught, exemplified, and suffered, become the moving cause of our righteousness—tend to kindle the love of moral excellence in our hearts, to lead us to just views, just feelings and just practice; thus making us *personally* holy, which is the only ground on which we can be accepted by our heavenly Father. Christ has done much, but had he been God he could have done nothing that we needed. We wanted to see the moral perfection of human nature exemplified. Jesus being made like unto us did set us a perfect example. That we may safely follow. But had he been God, what would his example have availed us? It would not have proved to what excellence we as human beings might rise. It was an example for Gods, not for man. All the beauty of his character vanishes when you call him God; all that was endearing in his life, all that awakened our sympathies and fired our souls with the love of virtue, has gone, and the gospel has no worth.

[From the Christian Reformer.]

A SIMPLE CREED BEST.

That there are but few plain and incontrovertible truths in religion, is on all hands allowed. Small in number, are the doctrines which all Christians agree in receiving, and yet these are of such supreme importance and high intrinsic worth as to make all other articles appear totally insignificant and wholly valueless.

All Christians maintain, that there is but one self-existent, eternal Being, who is the first cause and author of all things,—that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God,—that sins must be repented of, and good works performed,—that God must be served and loved,—and that there will be a resurrection from the dead, and a day of judgment, when all men will be admitted to happiness, or consigned to misery,* according as the deeds done in the body shall have been.

And this is the sum of what the Bible teaches. That book demands man's assent to nothing that can shock his reason or stagger his faith. "Secret things belong unto the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed (i. e. those things which are clearly made known) belong unto us and our children." But we must greatly err when we attempt to be "wise above what is written." If in scripture "there are some things hard to be understood," we may rest firmly assured, that these can have nothing to do with the revealed will of God; because whatever is revealed, or made known, cannot be hard to be understood. On the contrary, it is so plain, that "he who runs may read." It follows, that those things which are hard to be understood, must, in their very nature, be things of minor consequence, and therefore things which we had much better not try to understand, than, in the attempt to do so, wrest them to the destruction of our faith in those that are both easy to be understood and of the highest importance to be believed.

Jesus proposed but few articles of faith to his followers, and of these none are hard to be understood. "My yoke," said he, "is easy, and my burden is light." And again, "If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall remove mountains;" and not, Ye must have faith like mountains to remove a mustard seed. Christ in effect says, "I ask you to believe nothing that would be heavy and galling. The faith which I propose to you as that which will remove the mountains of obstacles and difficulties that lie in your way to heaven, is but as a mustard seed. The commands that I give you are easy to receive and light to bear; and in obeying them ye shall find present and future rest to your souls. Believe that I have received my commission from God. Learn of me. Love God and hate sin. Do to others as you would have others do to you. Prepare for the day of judgment. If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I assure you, that the greatest of all the commandments is, 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength; and thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.' 'Wherefore, why even of yourselves judge ye not what is right?'"

Thus briefly and simply are declared Christ's commands and the apostles' creed. And the whole of both may be expressed in the following manner: Christians must believe that there is but one God, that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, that the Son is to be revered and obeyed, and the God and Father of all worshipped and loved; and they must cherish every virtuous disposition, and practise justice, mercy, and benevolence, and be constantly making ready for the second coming of Jesus Christ

If it be safe to rest upon the plain declarations of Christ and his apostles, then there is safety in adopting this brief and simple creed. In the clear propositions of which it is composed, there is no contradiction, nothing hard to be understood, no place for perplexity and doubt. It is a creed with which most admirably harmonizes every principle of reason, every part of Scripture, and every attribute of God. He who receives it embraces all that the Bible and reason require him to believe, while he admits nothing contrary to either. He who has this has every thing. To try to make it fuller, is to try to increase the ocean. An attempt to beautify it is an attempt to paint the rainbow. Endeavoring to enlarge it, is endeavoring to extend immensity. If it be safest and best to believe every thing that the Scriptures clearly represent as essential to present holiness and future happiness, without believing anything dark, unintelligible, contradictory, and dangerous, then it is safest and best to adopt the forgoing short, rational and all-comprehensive faith.

* An exception of one class of American Universalists must here be made, because they reject future punishment. But this will not affect the general argument.

CHRISTIAN REGISTER.

BOSTON, JANUARY 7, 1832.

THE NEW YEAR.

We wish our subscribers, our readers, and our friends every where a happy new-year. We commend them to the good providence and to the rich mercy of our heavenly Father. May this year be to them who shall pass it on earth the best year of their lives, and by those of us who shall be called before its close to another world may the mansions of eternal life be found a better home.

We have, in reviewing the last year, abundant occasion to bless God for his goodness, and to lament our own ingratitude and unfaithfulness. The prospect before us is full of incitement to labor and hope. Truth is making its way through the clouds and the storms of error, and our conviction was never stronger than at this moment that if the friends of truth will do their duty in word and life, every month will furnish new proofs, and strengthen the old evidences, that Unitarian Christianity is 'the wisdom of God and the *power* of God unto salvation.'

Our personal affairs demand a word of acknowledgment and promise. We thank those who have assisted us in our weekly labors, and we beg of them to continue their contributions to the Register. Our subscription list has been considerably augmented within the last year, and we hope to present such a variety of sound doctrine, useful counsel and innocent entertainment as shall satisfy our patrons. From the success of the past we draw encouragement, from its errors instruction.

QUALIFICATIONS OF MISSIONARIES.

We have been much gratified in reading an article relating to this subject in the last number of the "Christian Spectator," a journal, as many of our readers understand, usually reputed Orthodox, and published at New Haven. We have been gratified because of the enlarged, rational, elevated views, which it takes of the state of the religious world, and more particularly of the wants, dangers, and prospects of the recently settled portions of our country. The article to which we refer is the review of the Report of the American Home Missionary Society for the year 1831; and we might mention with equal satisfaction, for the ability and excellent spirit with which it is written, the notice of Dr Miller's introductory lecture recently delivered at Princeton on the "*importance of mature preparatory study for the ministry*. Both these articles are characterised by a common excellence; and we cordially concur in the bold, enlightened, earnest, but calm and rational views, they inculcate of the demands of the gospel, and of the standard of the christian ministry.

From the former of these articles we have copied a brief passage, which will be found in another part of this paper. It exposes the spiritual wants of new communities, like those of the West, and also the danger of sending among them, as religious teachers, men not qualified to meet these wants. The loose and unhappily prevalent ideas on this subject, that a much less amount of learning and mental strength is needed, and that a systematic course of study is neither practicable nor important in those who are designed for such new settlements or are already engaged in the ministry among them, are considered and ably refuted. It is shown that so far from requiring *less*, such states of society reqnire even *more* intellectual as well as moral power in their religious guides, than do established and cultivated communities. The reason is obvious, and we think it must convince every one, who will give a moment's reflection to the subject. In the one case, the religious structure is already founded and reared; in general it may be said, at least in our towns and cities, that it is well sustained. But in the latter, in new and infant settlements, all is yet to be done. The foundations are to be laid; the Christian temple, the spiritual building is to be erected; and everything depends on the forming hand, the experience and skill, as much as on the piety and zeal, of the instruments employed. The forms in which infidelity and scepticism appear in such states of society, removed as men are from some of those salutary influences, which in more advanced communities serve to repress their boldness and to expose their sophistry, are in the pages before us ably depicted, and the qualifications for successfully repelling them are described. It is shown to be indispensable, that the teachers of religion in the West, and in all new countries, should be men learned in theology, of experience and reflection, men of study, giving themselves to the ministry, and not suffering secular pursuits, or even the more special offices of ministerial activity, such as lectures, conferences, or the like, to interfere with their diligent investigation of the scriptures, and the faithful culture of their minds. In fine, they should be thoroughly furnished with all the weapons with which truth is to be defended, and they should know how to use them.

SLAVERY IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The following petition has lately been sent to Congress from this place, with several hundred signatures, and among them those of many persons of the first respectability.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, the petition of the undersigned citizens of Boston, in Massachusetts, respectfully represents—

That your petitioners are deeply impressed with the evils arising from the existence of slavery in the District of Columbia. While our Declaration of Independence boldly proclaims as self-evident truths, "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness,"—at the very seat of government, human beings are born almost daily, whom the laws pronounce to be from their birth not *equal* to other men, and who are for life deprived of *liberty* and the free *pursuit of happiness*.

In addition to the other evils flowing from slavery, both moral and political, which it is needless to specify, circumstances (as we have been informed and fully believe) have rendered this District a common resort for traders in human flesh, who bring into it their captives in chains, and lodge them in places of confinement, previously to their being carried to the markets of the South and West.

From the small number of slaves in the District of Columbia, and the moderate proportion which they bear to the free population there, the difficulties which in most of the slaveholding States oppose the restoration of this degraded class of men to their natural rights, do not exist in this place.

Your petitioners therefore pray that Congress will, without delay, take such measures for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, and for preventing the bringing of slaves into that District for purposes of traffic, in such mode as may be thought advisable, and that whatever measures may be adopted, suitable provision should be made for the education of all free black and colored children in the District, thus to prevent them from continuing, even as freemen, an unenlightened and degraded caste.

Most of our readers are probably aware, that early at the present session of Congress a number of petitions for the same object from Pennsylvania were presented in the House of Representatives, by Mr Adams, who took occasion to express his opposition to the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia; that these petitions were committed to the Committee on the District, and that Mr Doddridge, the Chairman of the Committee, reported that it was inexpedient for Congress to adopt any measure for this purpose.

We trust that the cold reception which the Pennsylvania peittions met with, will not prevent persons who think that slavery ought not to be tolerated at the seat of government, from petitioning Congress on the same subject. Let us consider for one moment some of the arguments in favor of abolishing slavery in the District, and then consider the reasons suggested by Messrs Adams and Doddridge for abstaining from this measure.

1. The institution of slavery is unchristian and inhuman. This seems now generally admitted by many persons who justify its toleration in the Southern States; all they contend for being, that its continuance there is required by strict and urgent necessity.

2. Slavery exerts a demoralizing influence upon all classes of society, wherever it is tolerated, not less upon the slave-holder than the slave.

3. Slavery is inconsistent with the first principles of our government.

The foregoing arguments might have been stated more fully, and many others might have been adduced. But what are stated are sufficient for our present purpose. What reasons then have Messrs Adams and Doddridge adduced, to prove that the six thousand negro slaves in the District ought not to be made freemen. Have they shown that to keep them in slavery is just, humane, or Christian, that it is consistent with the Declaration of Independence and the principles of our constituton, or that its influence on society is beneficial? No. Nothing of this kind is attempted. But it is said that to abolish the system in the District will give offence to the States in which a similar system is maintained, and also that it will produce injurious effects upon those States which surround the District, and therefore that it ought not to be attempted until they have set the example of emancipation.

These arguments will hardly bear examination. The enfranchisement of the negro population of Columbia is a great moral duty of the nation. Is it any excuse for not performing this duty, that to do it will offend a portion of the nation? Is Congress to be deterred from effecting a great work of justice and humanity, because it may displease the white citizens of some of the States? What system of morals informs us that we must abstain from performing what it is our duty to do if it will offend our neighbors?

The other ground of argument is equally untenable. It supposes that the emancipation of the six thousand slaves of the District, will produce a bad effect on the slaves of Virginia and Maryland, either by making them desirous of freedom, or by making the District a more convenient resort for runaway negroes. The same argument might have been urged against the abolition of slavery in Pennsylvania, which has a much more extensive frontier on slave States than the District. We have never heard that the abolition of slavery in Pennsylvania produced very disastrous consequences in Maryland and Virginia. Then why should the abolition in the District of Columbia be so much dreaded?

The truth is, that restoring six thousand men to freedom in the District, cannot be a matter of much importance either to Virginia or Maryland; except that the act would be a strong intimation of the feeling of the people of the United States in regard to slavery, and an indirect reproach to those States which tolerate and make no efforts to remove or alleviate it.

Mr Doddridge's arguments might easily be retorted upon him. We might contend with truth that it was becoming in the United States, a great nation, to begin the work of enfranchisement and set an example for the imitation of the slave holding States.

But we do not think such arguments require any answer. They cannot have any weight with any unprejudiced person, who is familiar with the subject.

In order to effect the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia nothing is wanting but a general expression of public opinion upon the subject. Every one therefore who wishes for the accomplishment of this measure ought to exert himself. It may not be effected at the present session of Congress, but it will finally be carried; and the greater the exertion now made for the purpose, the sooner will the object be gained.

BOSTON PORT SOCIETY.

The Boston Port Society celebrated its third anniversary in the Federal street meeting house, on last Monday evening, Jan. 2d. This Society was instituted and has been conducted by members of the Methodist denomination, for the purpose of supporting a ministry devoted to the instruction of the seamen in this city. It appeared from the Report of the Treasurer, that the Society have purchased and paid for the meeting house formerly occupied by the Methodist Society, in Hanover Avenue in the north part of the city, and that they have received towards defraying this expense several hundred dollars collected by Rev. Edward T. Taylor in other places, particularly in the Atlantic cities south of us. Mr Taylor is the preacher employed by the Port Society; and we presume that they might have looked over the wide world without finding a man better fitted for this service. In his early years a sailor, familiar with all the dangers and temptations of a seaman's life, for a long time past a sincere and consistent Christian, passionately devoted to the improvement of the class of men with whose wants he is so well acquainted, a Methodist in regard to points of faith and discipline, but superior to every narrow influence of sectarianism, with a warm heart, a strong native good sense, a wonderful fertility of illustration, and a singular copiousness and purity of language, he unites more qualifications for the work that he has undertaken than could be expected in any individual. His success has proved his fitness and his fidelity. The house of worship is always crowded, while his more private ministrations of rebuke, counsel, comfort and encouragement have, in connexion with his public duties, inexpressibly endeared him to a large number of families, and have wrought an evident change in the character of those portions of the city in which he labors.

No one could have heard Mr Taylor on Monday evening, and not confessed the power of simple eloquence. The silence and tears of his audience attested their interest in his remarks and the effect produced on their hearts. The meeting was opened, after prayer by Rev. Dr Fiske of Middletown, Conn. with the reading of the Annual Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer of the Society, upon which Mr Justice Rogers of this city offered a course of pertinent remarks, to which he added several resolutions expressing the sense which should be entertained of the importance of the object and its various claims on the notice of the citizens, as well as of the confidence which might be reposed in the managers and minister of this Society. Mr Taylor then spoke for some time upon the situation, character, and claims of sailors, in respect to which he drew ample and affecting illustrations from his own experience. Hon. William Sullivan, Col. S. Swett, Rev. Dr. Fiske, Hon. William Sturgis, and Rev. Mr Gannett successively followed him; and the meeting, though it commenced at an early hour, was protracted till after 10 o'clock; yet such an interest was excited by the statements and appeals made to the audience, that an adjournment of the meeting for a fortnight was proposed and adopted, after the resolutions offered by Judge Rogers, and also one presented by Gen. Sullivan recommending a general application on the part of the managers for an increase of the funds, had been accepted.

The meeting was respectably and largely attended. But notice not having been given till a day or two previous, the house was not full and many lost the pleasure which they would have been glad to enjoy. We trust such notice of the adjourned meeting will be given, as shall secure a numerous assembly.

THE PHILANTHROPIST.

Four numbers of the second volume of this periodical are before us. It is edited by Rev. O. A. Brownson, and published every fortnight, at Ithica, N. Y. We have read most of the articles with satisfaction. The work is ably conducted, and we hope it will meet with the patronage it deserves. Mr Brownson seems to possess a talent for writing, well suited to interest and instruct a community like that in which he lives. His style is perspicuous and forcible, and he has thus far chosen his topics with judgment, and discussed them in a manner to fix attention. Some thoughts on "Justification," from the second number, appear on the first page of this week's Register; and we here subjoin a brief statement by the editor, from his introductory number.

We have said our paper would aim to defend Unitarian Christianity as we understand it. A paper for this purpose is much needed in this State. No one of right feelings but must be grieved at the bondage in which the general mind is held by Presbyterian influence, and no one but will be equally grieved at the fatal extreme, to which those run who break from popular restraint and set at defiance the predominant sect. To counteract these evils there has long been wanting a publication, that should firmly resist the encroachments of the Orthodox on the one hand, and carefully guard against any licentious extreme on the other. There has been wanting a rallying point for the friends of a mild, rational and benevolent religion; that desideratum, in some degree, the Philanthropist will labor to supply.

UNPRECEDENTED MULTIPLICATION OF BOOKS.

The beginning of every year is fruitful of books; and the present seems to be one of unwonted fertility. It has called forth the thoughts and pens of a numerous company of writers, of various ability and success, and has produced works of almost every description, for the contemplation of the philosopher, or for the amusement and instruction of the child. Indeed were we at a loss to designate the "age in which we live," that standard phrase, with which most theorists and moralists at this day commence their disquisitions—we should say it was an *age of books*; and if Solomon nearly three thousand years ago, when the press was not, and a book was counted for value with the gold of Ophir, found cause to say, that "of making many books there is no end"—what must have been the astonishment of that royal observer—himself an author of no inconsiderable extent—could he have entered the bookshops of the present day and turned over their various and inexhaustible stores.

Of our periodicals, alone, who shall count the number, much more who shall hope to do justice to their contents? To speak but of one class—and we would not willingly be unjust to any other—here upon our table are collected within two or three days past, the "North American Review," the "Christian Examiner," the "American Monthly Review," the "Unitarian Advocate," the "Liberal Preacher," the "Scriptural Interpreter," and others we might mention from other schools, and of other names, all coming in their stated seasons, and all claiming by their various merits, to say nothing of their authors, to be "marked, read and inwardly digested." Amidst such overflowings of fresh intellectual or spiritual nourishment, how shall we find place for the sages and instructors of old? What time is left us for the Fathers of the Church? to acquaint ourselves with its history; or with the doctrines and discourses of its eloquent teachers? Who now among us can redeem an hour to commune with Basil or with Chrysostom? with Ignatius or Tertullian? or, to descend to the days of the Reformers, with Calvin or Melancthon, Crellius or Socinus? or even later with Cudworth, Lightfoot, or Mede, with Bates, Baxter, or any of that venerable company of centuries past, whose folios are their glory, while they are gathering dust upon our shelves?

We only hope—and we rejoice that the hope is so well sustained—that the spirit of these elder worthies, their learning, piety, and noble gifts, sanctified as they were by their apostolic zeal, but separate, as they should be, from their scholastic errors, may be transferred into our multiplying journals; otherwise we must say, that no man, having tasted of the old, will straightway desire the new; for he will say "the old is better."

LATE PUBLICATIONS.

North American Review for January. We welcome this number of the North American, among the host of periodicals which the new year brings us, as the most interesting that has appeared for several months. We presume there has never been a time, when a greater variety of talent and learning was enlisted in its support than at present. We hope we are not prejudiced by local considerations, but we cannot help being struck with what appears to us a manifest superiority, with respect to sound scholarship and good taste, in the North American over any other domestic journal with which we are acquainted. It is a matter of sincere congratulation, that from small beginnings it has risen to its present eminence and is now able to command the best services of many of our most accomplished scholars, in different departments, in various and distant parts of our country. We allude, with still greater pleasure, to its pure moral and religious character. While it takes no part in the sectarian controversies of the day, its pages are open to good writers of every religious denomination, and its influence is decidedly exerted in favor of the great religious truths, which are equally essential to the well-being of the state and to the happiness of individuals. We find in it no lurking sneers at the high and noble principles upon which religion, morals and humanity are built up; no ill disguised or open scepticism with regard to the dearest hopes and holiest belief of the human mind; but always a direct and manly defence of the deep laid foundations of moral virtue, sound faith, and social order and improvement.

In the present number we have the sequel to a former article on Reform in England, which, it is well known, excited much attention in Parliament as well as out of it, during the debates on the Bill. The writer proceeds to give his views on the progress of Reform, which he supposes will terminate in the entire abolition of the existing order of things. An interesting article on the effects of the Greek Revolution, we presume, is from the same pen.

We have no room to particularize the several articles, but we cannot avoid expressing the pleasure we derived from that entitled 'Defence of Poetry,' from which we have given some extracts on our last page. It is written in a style of uncommon power and beauty, and pervaded throughout with the genial love of letters and all the fine and glorious forms of humanity.

Another admirable article on Croker's Boswell is filled with the acute and just criticism, overflowing humor, delicate badinage, and the native instinct of truth and goodness, which always mark the pen, from which it must have proceeded,—a pen, in our humble opinion, on such subjects inferior to none in the land.

We must also mention as a very interesting and well written article, the Review of Griffin's life, which presents a beautiful picture of a young man of singular promise and uncommon attainments with a maturity of mind and character rarely acquired at any age, who was prematurely taken away, but not without leaving the permanent and precious memorials of his excellence which are embodied in this valuable biography.

The American Monthly Review. No. 1. January. This is the first number of a work recently established at Cambridge, and understood to be under the editorial direction of one of the Professors of the University, assisted by a number of literary men of different professions and studies. A work of this character, we think, was much needed. The American press is now so abundantly prolific, both in original matter and in foreign reprints, that it requires some one to look well after it. Short notices of new works, as they appear, may not only save the time and money of many of our worthy citizens, by exposing the catch-penny publications of the day and calling attention to those which are really valuable, but they serve also to give a current literary history of our native doings and sayings. The plan of the American Review is original. It proposes to confine itself altogether to American editions. It will aim to give some account of every work of any importance, which falls under its cognizance from the American press. From the provision that the editor has made for its support, we have no doubt that its pages will be ably and abundantly supplied, and that it will soon work its way to general popularity.

The present number is a promising specimen. It holds out a pledge, which if faithfully redeemed will ensure its success and usefulness. We recognized among its contributions the hand of some of our most gifted writers, whose aid alone would give popularity to any work. The articles are generally brief, but sound and pointed. We have notices of thirty-two different works, among them, Chancellor Kent's Phi Beta Kappa Oration, Coleridge's Introduction to the Classics, Griffin's Remains, Sullivan's Class Books, Webster's Speeches, Child's Mother's Book, Greenwood's edition of the Liturgy, Library of Old English Prose Writers, with others not less interesting or important. The article on the Old English Prose Writers is a short, but just and profound piece of literary criticism, and such as to authorize the highest expectations of the tone and spirit of the work.

We are glad to welcome it among us and we are sure that it will substantiate strong claims to the favor and patronage of the community.

UNITARIAN PERIODICALS.

The year begins well. We have received excellent numbers of the periodicals due at this time. We have spoken above of two of the most important; to say nothing of other literary publications, the "Examiner," the "Advocate," and the "Liberal Preacher," are entitled to a brief notice. The "Christian Examiner" shows ability and industry in its writers, with the exercise of good judgment in its editors. The number contains more than the usual variety of subjects. Theology, philosophy, education, government, biography, literature, furnish topics that are treated with discrimination and talent. Among the longer essays is one on 'Stability in the Christian character,' and another entitled 'Some thoughts on self education, considered with reference to the state of literature in this country.' Among the larger reviews are notices of Tucker's Light of Nature, and King's Life of Locke. A biographical sketch of Pestalozzi fills several pages, while articles on Dr Worcester's book on 'The Atoning Sacrifice,' Mackintosh's History of England, Prof. Follen's Inaugural Discourse, with brief notices of Miss Martineau's 'Traditions of Palestine, or Times of the Saviour, and of Dr Nichols's Natural Theology, complete the number.

The "Unitarian Advocate" also offers in the first number of the new volume a variety of good reading. Articles on 'Prayer,' on the 'Obscurities and seeming imperfections of Christianity,' and on the 'Proem to St John's Gospel' merit attentive perusal, while the shorter articles on 'Advances made in the criticism and interpretation of the sacred text in recent times,' on 'the Prevalent

spirit of free inquiry on the subject of religion, on Reinhard's volume on the 'Plan of the Founder of Christianity,' and particularly that on 'Gallio,' whom the writer clears from unjust imputations while he draws pertinent instruction from the incidents which bring him to our notice, will be read with pleasure. A hymn from Sir Thomas Browne and a few articles of intelligence conclude the number.

The "Liberal Preacher" for this month contains a sermon by Rev. Mr Dewey, on 'Working out our salvation, a practical work,' from Phil. ii. 12, 13. It is a sound and earnest discourse, such as we wish always to see in the Preacher. The volume could not have had a better commencement.

The "Scriptural Interpreter" for December is also before us. Besides the usual portion of 'Translation and Exposition' it contains original articles on the 'Meaning of the word Gehenna' 'The poetical parts of the Old Testament, and Paul's Epistles hard to be understood,' with an extract from Benson's Essay on the 'Unity of sense' in scripture. This number completes the first volume, and we learn with pleasure that the subscription for the work is such as to insure its continuance.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Religious Folly. A late number of the Boston Courier gives a notice of certain occurrences of which we had seen a more full statement in an English newspaper. The article in the Courier exhibits all the facts.

Every body who reads a newspaper has read something of the Rev. E. Irving, a Scotch preacher, who, several years ago, established a sort of national independent church in London, for the purpose of disseminating his peculiar religious tenets. A few weeks ago, this gentleman delivered, at his own church, two sermons on the extraordinary gifts of the Spirit, on each of which occasions the congregation were disturbed by individuals pretending to the miraculous gift of tongues. During the sermon in the morning, a lady, thus singularly endowed, was compelled to retire to the vestry, where she was unable (as she herself says) to restrain herself, and spoke for some time in the unknown tongue, to the great surprise of the congregation, who did not seem prepared for the exhibition. The reverend gentleman resumed the subject in the evening, by discoursing from (or rather expounding) the 12th chapter of the 1st Corinthians. Towards the conclusion of the exposition, he took occasion to allude to the circumstance of the morning, and expressed his doubts whether he had done right in restraining the exercise of the gift in the church itself, and compelling the lady to retire to the vestry. At this moment a gentleman in the gallery, who keeps an academy in London rose from his seat, and commenced a violent harangue in the unknown tongue. The confusion occasioned was extreme. The whole congregation rose from their seats in affright. Several ladies screamed aloud, and others rushed to the doors. Some supposed that the building was in danger; others, that there had either been a murder, or an attempt to murder some one in the gallery; insomuch, that one gentleman actually called out to the pew-openers and beadle to "Stop him, and not let him escape." On both occasions the church was extremely crowded, and it is said to be impossible to describe the confusion produced by this display of fanaticism. There was, indeed, in the strange unearthly sound and extraordinary power of voice enough to appal the heart of the most stout-hearted. A great part of the congregation standing upon the seats, to ascertain the cause of the alarm, while the reverend gentleman, (Mr Irving,) standing with arms extended, and occasionally beckoning them to silence, formed a scene, which, perhaps partook as much of the ridiculous as of the sublime. No attempt was made to stop the individual, and after two or three minutes he became exhausted and sat down, and then the reverend gentleman concluded the service.

SUMMARY.

MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE.

On Wednesday last the Senate was called to order by Mr Hoyt, of Franklin County, the senior member, and His Excellency the Governor administered the oaths required by the Constitution to the members present. A vote was passed to appoint a Committee to receive and count the votes for President of the Senate. A reconsideration of this vote was moved, with a view of proposing a postponement of the choice of President, until the vacancies in the Senate should be filled. The question was decided in the negative, and on the third ballot the Hon. William Thorndike, of Essex, was chosen and accepted. Charles Calhoun Esq. was chosen Clerk by a unanimous vote. It was ordered that such newspapers as shall be ordered by the members be furnished them, not exceeding three daily papers. Returns of the votes for Governor, Lieut. Governor, Counsellors and Senators were made by the Secretary, and Committees appointed to examine and report on the returns. A resolution of the town of Taunton on the subject of an amendment of the Constitution was presented and laid on the table. It was ordered that 10 o'clock be the hour to which the Senate shall adjourn from day to day.

The House of Representatives was called to order by the Hon. George Blake, senior member of the Boston delegation, and the oaths of office, or affirmation, required by the Constitution, administered to the members by the Governor. On a second ballot Luther S. Cushing, Esq. of Cambridge, was chosen Clerk, and the oath of office administered by Mr Blake. The Hon. William B. Calhoun, of Springfield, was chosen Speaker. Several petitions were presented and laid on the table. Three petitions were presented, signed by different individuals, to be incorporated as companies to construct a Railroad from Boston to Salem; one of the petitions praying authority to continue the road to the Northern boundary of the State. A Committee was joined to the Committee of the Senate, to examine the returns of votes for Governor, Lieut. Governor and Counsellors. Ten o'clock was fixed as the standing hour of adjournment, until otherwise ordered. Public worship was attended at the Old South Church, by the Executive and the different branches of the Legislature, and a sermon delivered by the Rev. Paul Dean, of this city.

In the Senate, Thursday Jan. 5th. Communications were received from the Secretary transmitting a list of the towns which have failed to make returns of their votes at the several elections, since the last session, also a statement of the expenses of the Secretary's department for the year 1831. A statement was received from the Treasurer of the expenses of his department and of the present state of the Treasury.

In the House of Representatives. Resolutions were presented from Taunton and Stockbridge, in opposition to the amendment to the Constitution now pending. A petition of John Lemist and al. was presented for a Bank in Roxbury, capital $200,000. Petitions were presented for Railroads from Boston to Salem, and for a Railroad from Pittsfield to New York State, and of the Lowell Railroad Bank for an increase of capital. Petitions were presented from several towns for an amendment of the Constitution so far as to abolish the third article of the Bill of Rights.

TWENTY SECOND CONGRESS.

In the Senate, on Thursday the 30th ult. Bills to revive and continue in force an act to provide for reports of the decisions of the Supreme Court, and supplementary to the laws for the sale of public lands were read the third time, and ordered to be engrossed.

In the House of Representatives. Bills were reported to provide for rebuilding certain armed vessels, and making appropriations for the Revolutionary and other pensioners for the year 1832.

In the Senate, on Friday. The bill revising the act providing for the decisions of the Supreme Court was passed. The Committee on Naval Affairs were instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a naval depot and port of expedition and rendezvous within the waters of Naraganset Bay.

In the House of Representatives. Bills have been reported to extinguish the Indian titles in Indiana and Illinois and making appropriations for the support of the army for 1832. A message wss received by the House from the President, communicating a correspondence between the Governor of Georgia and the Department of State, respecting the boundary line between Georgia and Florida.

The Wesleyan University, at Middletown, Conn Rev. Wilbur Fisk, President, and acting Professor of Moral Science and Belles Lettres—Augustus W. Smith, A. M. Professor Mathematics—Rev. John P. Durbin, Professor Natural Science—Rev. John M. Smith, Professor Ancient Languages and Literature—Rev. Frederick J. Huber, Professor Modern Languages—William Magann, Tutor. The number of the students for the fall term of 1831, is fortyeight.

French Spoliations. A correspondent of the New York Evening Post, at Washington, says that the committee of Foreign Relations has agreed, with one dissenting vote, to report a bill for allowing the claims for French Spoliation before 1801, as having been assumed by our government "to the amount of the value of the engagements of the United States to France, from which the country was released by the sacrifice of these claims." This, the letter adds, will give a large per centage, if not pay the principal of most of the fair claims of this description.

Lead Mines. The amount of Lead made at the United States Lead Mines, at Fever river and Missouri, during the year is 6,449,080 pounds. In 1829, the amount was 14,541,310 pounds. The rents of these mines are paid in lead; and in January, 1830. they were reduced from 10 to 5 per cent. in the amount of lead made.

Emigration to Liberia. The schooner Crawford, Taylor, sailed from New Orleans, on the 13th ult. for Liberia, with twentyone emigrants from Kentucky.—The Emporium says, she takes out a large supply of merchandise, books, medicines, &c. &c. for the use of the colony. The expedition sails under the superintendence of Charles G Shave, M. D. of Cincinnati, a talented and worthy young gentleman, who volunteered his services, and gratuitously gives them to the colonizing enterprise.

There were one hundred or more applicants for passage on board of the Crawford, with a view to a final settlement in Liberia, but arrangements could not be made in time to accommodate such a number. It is, however, expected they will sail from that port early in the spring Not a drop of spirits of any kind was taken out by the Crawford, not even for the medicine chest.

Mr. Girard's Will—Poulson's Advertiser gives the following abstract of this will.

It gives to the Pennsylvania Hospital, subject to the payment of an annuity of $200 to a female slave, whom he sets free, $30,000.

To the Asylum of the Deaf and Dumb, 20,000.

To the Orphans' Asylum, 10,000.

To the Controllers of the Public Schools, 10,000.

To the City Corporation, to be invested, and the interest to be applied annually in the purchase of Wood for the Poor. 10,000.

To the Society of Ship Masters, 10,000.

To the Free Masons' Lodge, 20,000.

For a School to be erected in the township of Passyunk, for poor white children 6,000.

Sundry Legacies to Individuals amounting to 120,000.

Several Annuities amounting to about 4,000.

To the City of New Orleans, 1000 acres of improved Land in the territory of Mississippi, and

One third of 207,000 acres of unimproved Land in the same territory.

To the City of Philadelphia the remaining two thirds of the said unimproved Lands. [This land is said to be now worth $500,000.*

To the City of Philadelphia, Stock in the Schuylkill Navigation Company, 110,000. [Worth in the market considerably more than this sum.]

For a College for poor white male children and its proper endowments, the sum of 2,000,000.

To the City of Philadelphia, for certain City Improvements, to be invested, and the interest to be annually applied, 500,000.

All his remaining Estate, real and personal, (no part of the real estate to be sold) is to be applied as follows:—to further aid of the said College—improvements of the City and in relief of the Taxes.—This Estate is very large, but not yet valued.

To the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to be applied to Internal Improvements by Canals, provided the Legislature shall within one year from Stephen Girard's decease, pass laws authorizing the City of Philadelphia to make the intended improvements—otherwise to the United States for the same object, 300,000.

The following gentlemen are the Executors of his Will: Timothy Paxson, Thomas P. Cope, Joseph Roberts, Wm J Duane, John A. Barclay.

*The Philadelphia Chronicle states that this property is greatly overvalued.

A Fine Young Elephant, belonging to Pickering Dodge, Esq. came passenger in the ship Rome, which arrived at Boston last week. We are informed that he has enjoyed uninterrupted health on the passage, always eating his allowance with a good appetite, although he suffered considerably from the cold, notwithstanding all the precautions taken by Captain Kennedy for his comfort. His daily rations were thirty pounds of hay, thirty pounds of straw, and twenty five pounds of rice, moistened with twelve gallons of water. On several occasions during the passage, he displayed the sagacity and gratitude for attention, for which the species is so remarkable. Before he was put on board at Calcutta, a house was built for him, in the strongest manner, covered with thick teak-planks, which were fastened to the frame by stout iron spikes, clenched on the inside. The elephant was swung into the ship by means of a crane and straps around the body, as oxen are prepared for shoeing. His mahout guided him into the domicil prepared for him, without any trouble, but in that hot climate he soon found the exclusion of fresh air disagreeable, and did not cast about long for a remedy. In a playful manner, he applied his trunk to the stout and firmly secured planks, wrenched them off as if they had been straws, and dashed them away. No attempt was made at that time to replace them; but when the ship approached our coast, the elephant began to suffer from the cold. To shelter him Captain Kennedy resolved to make another endeavor to close up his house. This time there was no attempt on the part of the elephant to obstruct the process. He appeared perfectly to understand the object, and to feel grateful for it.—Nothing but thin boards were used, fastened with common nails; the slightest blow of his trunk would have shivered them to atoms, but he cautiously abstained from touching them. The whole was made air-tight, as the seamen thought, by filling the crevices with straw, but the quick eye of the elephant discovered several small fissures, which he pointed out with his trunk till they were successively filled. When the whole was completed, his satisfaction appeared to have no bounds.

Before the approach of cold weather, a coat had been made for him composed of gunny-bags, stuffed with straw. He suffered this to be tried upon him and nicely fastened in every part; but no sooner was the fitting completed, than he stripped it off in a moment, and threw it aside. At length, however, the cold became extreme, and the elephant evidently suffered exceedingly.—Captain Kennedy then had a new dress made for him, and placed it on him in the same manner as before. In this case, as with respect to the covering of the house, the elephant fully appreciated the kindness of the motive, and his gratitude and satisfaction were manifested in the most intelligible manner.

During the whole passage, he was completely under the control of his mahout, or keeper, and would lie or kneel down whenever ordered by him; but always slept standing. He would brace his head firmly against one end of the house, and his side against the wall, and whenever the ship shifted her course he altered his position to conform to it. He never left his enclosure during the whole passage of more than a hundred and sixty days.

Some difficulty was anticipated in landing him, but it was fortunately effected with ease and safety. A flooring of double plank was laid from the ship's deck to the wharf, and the elephant, with the mahout on his back, was released from his long imprisonment and conducted to the gangway. He surveyed minutely the platform prepared for his egress, and placed his foot upon it to test its strength. He was not entirely satisfied, however, of its capacity to endure his great weight, and returned to his house. After a while he was coaxed out again, and irons were attached to each of his fore-legs. Again he placed one of his feet upon the platform, and at that moment the men who were holding the line drew it tight and kept the leg stretched out. He then extended his other fore-leg, and that was immediately drawn out in the same manner. Finding there was compulsion in the case, and that he must go, and judging, like a philosopher, that his weight was less likely to break through when spread over a large surface than when concentrated, he threw himself upon his belly, and by a muscular movement worked his way from the ship to the wharf, to the great delight of thousands of people who covered the neighboring wharves, vessels and stores.

Salem Gazette.

FROM EUROPE.

England. A late arrival at New York from Liverpool, brought English papers of Nov. 16th and 17th. They contain but little that is important or definite with respect to the state of the Kingdom. Reports were current that a change of ministry would speedily take place. The reports are not traced to any authentic source. It is said that Lord Gray wishes to resign on account of ill health, but that if a change of the ministry should occur, there will be no alteration of the present policy of the Government. Incendiaries continued their depredations upon property, and to create alarm in different parts of England. The apprehensions excited by the appearance of the cholera at Sunderland, appear to have abated. The report of the board of health states that the total number of sick, which by the former report was 24, is now but 16.

We give the following extracts from papers by the late arrivals.

London, Nov 11.—The following is inserted under the head of Holland, in the Journal des Debats, as the answer of his Dutch Majesty to the invitation made to him by the London Conference to accede to the treaty of separation between his dominions and Belgium. If the document be authentic, we are afraid that his Majesty is again consulting his pride and obstinacy at the expense of his security and interests.

"*Hague, Nov.* 3.—Until the basis of a treaty of the aforesaid articles, shall have been adopted, the King declines to declare his opinion definitely upon that which, according to the opinion of his Majesty, ought to be in harmony with that which has been established as a principle by the aforesaid protocols. The King moreover, declares that nothing will be more agreeable to him than to reply effectually to the wishes of the Powers for the preservation of a general peace, and that his Majesty will co-operate towards it with all his ability; but that this peace cannot, however, be purchased at the price of the honour, the preservation, and the well-being of Holland.

"That admitting always that the kingdom of the Pays Bas, even when it existed entire, was not equal to the other Powers in the council of Europe, his Majesty ought, however, looking to the treaty of Vienna, and the quality of an independant people, which old Holland already possessed, to insist upon his rights, which, as King, are equal in every respect to those of the other sovereigns. That his Majesty ought to preserve the inviolability of its rights for a nation which by its perseverance, has long ago been able to obtain (after a war of 80 years) its independence and its liberty, and thus to acquire a rank amongst the other Powers—for a people which has again recently declared itself, and to which he is responsible so long as its honor, its prosperity and dignity amongst nations are in question, and whose blood has been shed, and whose resources have been sacrificed with enthusiasm for the well-being of the country. And that therefore, if the Conference should determine that it cannot accede to the just wishes of the King, it only remains for His Majesty to place his reliance on his good right and on the help of God; to wait the course of events; to place the armaments on such a footing, as to be prepared to chastise whomsoever should make an attempt upon his rights; always reserving to himself to act towards the Sovereigns his allies represented at the Conference of London, in such a manner as his Majesty shall ultimately think proper. To tranquillize the five Powers, the King informs them, that having nothing more at heart than to co-operate in the desire manifested to preserve the general peace, always reserving the employment of the war-like forces of the kingdom, until he shall consider necessary to the national interests, 'he has decided not to commit any aggressive act of hostility, but that he will hold himself upon the defensive.'

"That, without explaining himself relatively to the letter of the 24 articles proposed, and without entering into discussion as to their nature, which would render them acceptable or not, his Majesty confines himself for the present to protesting against the form and character which the negotiation has lately taken: considering that the powers of the Dutch plenipotentiaries accepted by the Conference, set forth that they are authorised to discuss, determine upon, and sign with the Conference, a treaty of separation between Holland and Belgium. Upon the strength of this diplomatic document, the Dutch plenipotentiaries ought to declare to the Conference, that they are ready to enter into discussion with it upon the 24 articles, and to determine upon and conclude with it a treaty of separation between Holland and Belgium, which will be the result of this discussion. Beside, in asserting the principle of their right to be admitted to the discussions of the Congress relative to such a treaty, the Dutch plenipotentiaries ought to rely upon the protocol of the Conference, grounded upon that of Aix-la-Chapelle, Nov. 1818, and by which the rights of the King are assimilated to those of the other Powers, and which consequently place his Majesty in a totally different position with relation to the Conference to that of the insurgent government of Belgium; the necessity that a treaty (as was originally acknowledged by the Conference) should comprise a revision of the eight articles of 1814, which revision ought to be, properly speaking, the basis of a new treaty—principles adopted by the Conference itself in its protocols No's. 1, 11, 12, and 19, and which place his Majesty in a totally different aspect to the Belgians."

Taxes in England.—An idea may be formed of the enormity of the taxes in England from the following fact: the gin and whiskey which puts John Bull in good humor, brings into the coffers of the government a sum equal to the revenue of the Spanish monarchy. The taxes on the beer, which quenches his thirst, exceed the revenue of Bavaria; he pays for his tea as much as Francis I. collects from six millions of Neapolitans; and for the sugar which sweetens it, more than twelve millions of Americans pay for all their duties; on the tobacco, which satisfies a depraved appetite, he pays a larger duty than four millions of Italians give to Charles Felix; he pays for soap, with which he washes his hands, a sum equal to what is necessary for the Pope himself, for his soldiers and his government; for the privilege of admitting light into his house by means of windows, he lays out as much money as flows into the coffers of the king of Hanover; finally, the taxes levied upon his thirstalone, if he drink brandy, rum, whiskey, beer or wine, exceed the amount which 50 millions of Russians pay for the benefit of a paternal despotism.

Constantinople, Nov 10.—The Porte is in the greatest emotion, the Divan is repeatedly assembled, and the Reis Effendi is in constant communication with European Dragomen. It is confidently stated that fresh negotiations with regard to Greece have been opened, and that the Conference of London, seeing the lamentable state to which that country is reduced, has applied to the Porte to consent to a new set of boundaries, which would give to the Greeks the frontiers proposed by the first project of the Conference, promising at the same time an indemnity to Turkey for the concession.

Oct. 10.—On the 5th inst. a natural phenomenon, such as few persons remember, and the effect of which has been most destructive, filled with terror the inhabitants of this country, who are at the same time suffering under all kinds of evils. After an uncommonly sultry night, threatening clouds rose about 6 in the morning in the horizon, to the south and west, and a noise between thunder and tempest, and yet not to be compared with either, increased every moment, and the inhabitants of the capital, roused from their strife, awaited with anxious expectation the issue of this threatening phenomenon. Their uncertainty was of not long duration; lumps of ice as large as a man's foot falling first singly, and then like a thick shower of stones, which destroyed every thing that they came in contact with. The oldest persons do not remember ever to have seen such hail stones. Some were picked up half an hour afterwards which weighed above a pound.

This dreadful storm passed over Constantinople and along the Bosporus, over Therapia, Bujukdere, and Belgrade, and the fairest, nay the only hope of this beautiful and fertile tract, the vintage just commenced, was destroyed in a day. Animals of all kinds and even some persons, are said to have been killed, an innumerable quantity are wounded, and the damage done to the houses is incalculable. Besides that scarcely a window has escaped in all the country, the force of the falling masses of ice was so great, that they broke to atoms all the tiles on the roofs, and shattered like musket-balls planks half an inch thick. Since that day the rain has not ceased to pour down in torrents, and from the slight way in which the houses are built, almost wholly consisting of windows, and with very flat roofs, that have nothing to keep off the wet besides tiles, innumerable families are not much more comfortable than in a bivouac. If, in addition to this we consider that in consequence of the burning of Pera, and the great fires in Constantinople itself, many have no shelter whatever, and recollect besides theplague which continues to spread, and the cases of cholera which still occur, both together indeed make the whole a most gloomy picture.

A journal in the Turkish and French languages will shortly be published here, by order of the Sultan, and under the especial direction of a commission appointed for that purpose. The prospectus of this journal, which is to be published once a week, has been printed in the Turkish language and distributed among the public.

Genoa, Oct 29.—The Dey of Algiers and his suite arrived here on the 24th of this month. A part of his harem was landed at Leghorn the day before, and is lodged in one of the country houses of Corneglano. Hussein is gone to the same place.

Naples, Oct. 15.—Accounts from Sicily were filled with complaints of the failure of the harvest of corn and oil. The situation of the inhabitants is miserable, as they depend upon these two commodities for their prosperity.

Frontiers of Russia, Oct. 17.—Great indignation against the Poles is exhibited at St. Petersburg, and the Emperor, with the best intentions, will find some difficulty in granting to them the benefits stipulated by the Congress of Vienna. The party of old Russians forces him to oppose the hopes of the Poles; it will hear nothing in regard to the treaties signed by Alexander at Vienna, considering them annihilated by the downfall of the Romanoff family. This party is powerful; and comprises the first officers of state in the civil and military departments, and will probably succeed in preventing the restoration of the Polish constitution.

Assassination of Capo d'Istrias, We are indebted to the Boston Daily Advertiser for the following translation of a letter respecting the assassination of Capo d'Istrias, President of Greece.

PARIS, Oct. 26, 1831.

The Count Capo d'Istria has been assassinated. I cannot record the fact but with the most profound grief. The man who has sacrificed every thing to his country has perished the victim of private vengeance. We are as yet unacquainted with the details of this unhappy event, by which Greece has been deprived of her greatest citizen, her safe bulwark and support. The Greeks of all parties will before long be aware of the misfortune which has befallen them; they will soon perceive that the loss of Capo d'Istria is irreparable, and when they reflect upon all which he has done for his country, they will revere him as one of the best of mankind.

The President of Greece was moulded after the antique: stern, austere, of unequalled probity, never anxious to have his own services appreciated, despising criticism when it was unjust, employing all his fortune for Greece, and pursuing with perseverance his projects for the civilization of his country. Never were more estimable qualities possessed by man; a scholar, a wit, a great traveller and an enthusiastic patriot; in his manners simple, without etiquette or reserve, he combined with all this so virtuous an entire trust in Providence. In many of his letters, where he invariably speaks of his solicitude for the welfare of his country, he always closes by adding, "I place, however, all confidence in the future; God has so obviously protected Greece thus far, that he will still protect it on this occasion."

The correspondence of Capo d'Istria is a model of wisdom, of perspicuity and tact; it is impossible to conceive of all which he wished to do for Greece, and of the immense care which he extended to the education of youth, it is true and only hope of Greece as he was accustomed to say. But his modesty and self-denial were so great, and such was his repugnance to any thing like boasting, that he has repeatedly forbidden me to publish any portion of his letters, and expressed his displeasure when I have acted contrary to his command. But were these letters generally known, the world would be astonished at the ameliorations produced by his administration, and at the eminent qualities of this excellent man. Unfortunately for Greece, the events which have transpired in Europe have for a long time thrown him comparatively into the shade. The Powers will have cause of bitter regret in having prolonged that fatal provision which has produced all the evil I deplore. For a year I witnessed with grief the acute sufferings of my friend; but what were my efforts opposed to so many obstacles!

The death of the president is a calamity to Greece; it is, I do not hesitate to say, a misfortune to all Europe; for he was the bond of union between civilized Europe and Greece. Notwithstanding the calumnious articles promulgated by certain journals, the Count Capo d'Istria had an immense majority of the people of Greece in his favor. He was respected and beloved by all the inhabitants of the interior: I assert, without fear of being contradicted by any who have travelled in the interior of the country, that the president was there regarded as a father, and that his death will produce a general affliction.

The enemies of Count Capo d'Istria, these even who originated the insurrection of Hydra, will soon have cause to regret him, as the future will show.

The president was in every acceptation of the term, a superior man; and his very faults (if we look upon him as the chief of a State) were his virtues. So great was his abhorrence of a want of honesty and integrity, that he was not sufficiently suspicious of intriguers and plunderers. This weakness produced him enemies!

Is it to be wondered at, that this illustrious victim should have had his traducers, when even here in France, men who for years have given the most indubitable proofs of their patriotism and their devotion to a rational liberty, are daily traduced by their ancient friends, with as much animosity as certain Greeks have permitted themselves to attack Count Capo d'Istria.

Algiers. Intelligence from Algiers, dated Oct. 30th, says that General Boyer had been attacked for eight successive days by El Hammery, Lieutenant of the Emperor of Morocos. The Lieutenant had retired to Mascara, but Boyer was threatened with a fresh attack with the cannon of that place.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

We send bills, this week, to some of our subscribers from whom considerable arrears are due; and we propose to do the same to other subscribers next week. A moment's reflection, must convince them, we think, of the propriety of our very urgently calling their attention to the subject.

Erratum. In our last week's account of the late Plymouth celebration, the reader will please to make the following correction. About the middle of the second paragraph, for "was *not* strictly a measure of self defence," read "was *most* strictly," &c.

MARRIAGES.

In this city, on Sunday, by Rev, Dr Lowell, Mr George Watson to Miss Lydia Ann Nickerson Whiting, daughter of Mr Kimball W.

In Harvard, on the 27th ult. by Rev. Mr Gilbert, Mr George Simonds to Miss Clarissa Frost, both of Harvard.

In Sandwich, by Rev. Mr Goodwin, Mr James Madison Glover of Quincy, to Miss Harriet Louisa Gibbs, daughter of Col. Nathan Gibbs of S.

In New Bedford, H. G. O. Colby Esq. of Taunton, Attorney at Law, to Miss Jane S. Parker, daughter of Hon. John A. Parker, of N. B.

In Providence, Mr Rowland Lyman, of Lowell, Mass. to Miss Mary Howland, daughter of John H. Esq.

DEATHS.

In this city, on the 3d inst. William Boyd Adams son of Dr Samuel Adams, student of the Theological Institution at Andover.

In Cambridge, Robert, son of Rev. H. Ware, jr, aged 3.

In Salem, Mr Thomas Newhall, aged 77; Widow Peabody, sister of Col. William Mansfield—Mrs Ruth Barr, wife of the late Capt. William B. 65—Mr John Bryant, 64.

In East Bridgewater, Mrs Mary, wife of Mr Robert Young, aged 77; Mr Ethan A. Stetson, 29.

In Taunton, Mr Charles R. Washburn, son of Mr Isaac W. aged 21—Mr Abner Thayer, 52.

In Worcester, Mr Luke Flagg, aged 40.

In Berlin, Josiah Barnard, aged 62.

In Granville, John Phelps, Esq. for many years Sheriff of the county.

In Goshen, Col. Timothy Lyman, aged 52.

In Wilbraham, widow Mary Merrick, aged 80.

In New York, John Appleton, youngest son of J. Appleton Haven.

In Paris, on the 24th Oct. Joseph Dorr, Esq. merchant, of Boston, aged 63.

PHILOSOPHY OF EVIL.

Mr Burton's Lectures on the Origin, Uses, and Remedies of Evil, having been postponed to next Monday evening, Jan 9th, will then commence at Chauncy Hall, at 7 o'clock, and will continue on *Monday evenings* till they close.

☞ Tickets for the course, at Messrs. Carter & Hendee's, B. H. Greene's, and Cottons & Barnard's. $2 single, $3 gentleman and lady, $4 for a family.

NEW BOOKS.

Just published by B. H. GREENE, (late Wait, Greene & Co.) 124 Washington Street,

American Moral Tales; being No. 1 of the Juvenile Library. By the Author of Evening Hours, &c.

Days of Childhood, with 13 engravings. By the Author of Sophia Morton, &c.

Trials of a School Girl. By the Author of Days of Childhood, Sophia Morton, &c.

Chapone's Letters to a Young Lady. A new edition with engravings.

Days of Sickness. By the Author of the Talisman.

A Father's Legacy to his Daughters. By Dr Gregory.

A Mother's Advice to her Daughters. By Lady Pennington, with engravings. 3tis. Dec. 24.

MR FARR'S PUBLICATIONS.

Just published at the Office of the Christian Register, "Religious Curiosity; or The Great Concern. A Sermon delivered in Gardner, Mass., the Sunday Afternoon after there had been a 'Protracted Meeting' in that town. By Jonathan Farr."

For Sale also the following Publications by the same Author.

A Serious and Friendly Address to the Anxious Inquirer. pp. 18. Price 2 cts.

A Pastoral Letter, by a Unitarian Minister. pp. 16. Price 2 cts.

On Revivals. pp. 16. Price 2 cts.

*** The above are sold at *one-third* discount to purchasers by the hundred.

'These Four Days' Meetings.'—What are they for? and what will be the cost and fruit of them? pp. 16. Price 2 cts. single, $1 per hundred.

Plain Letters on Important Subjects. pp. 250. Price 50 cts. single, $5 per doz. dozen.

Gospel Temperance.—A Sermon, delivered in Gardner, Mass., the Sunday Morning after there had been a "Protracted Meeting" in that town. pp. 16. Price 2 cts. single, $1 per hundred.

FRENCH SCHOOL BOOKS.

Just published, *the Explanatory and Pronouncing French Word Book*, or first step to the French Language. Being an easy Spelling Book and Vocabulary of 3000 words. To which is added the French Phrase-Book. By M. L'Abbe Bossut. Third edition.

The original plan of this little Manual has been highly appreciated, and the work used with much success. It has been now much improved by annexing the sound and articulation of each word, according to the approved dictionary of the Abbe Tardy. With the aid of this, it may safely be said that parents and others partially acquainted with the pronunciation of the language may give instruction to their children and pupils, with confidence and correctness. It is also highly useful to beginners in schools,

Also just published, the second edition of *The Classical French Reader*, selected from the best writers of that language in prose and poetry, preceded by an introduction designed to facilitate the study of the rudiments of the French, and attended with notes explanatory of the idioms, &c. throughout the work. By N. M. Hentz, late Professor in Chapel Hill College and now of the College in Cincinnati.

Also lately published *An Easy Grammar of the French Language* for Young Beginners. By F. M. I. Surault, late Professor of Philosophy in France, and now French Instructor in Harvard University. Feeling as a teacher every day the want of a grammar less obscure and difficult than those now in use, the author has prepared this, which contains nothing but what is indispensible, and all it contains is made as simple, obvious and intelligible as possible.

Also, *Wanostroch's French Grammar.*

Published by RICHARDSON, LORD & HOLBROOK, School Book publishers. Dec. 24.

FOURTH EDITION

STOUGHTON COLLECTION OF CHURCH MUSIC.

Marsh, Capen & Lyon have just published the *Fourth Edition* of this popular work. It is enlarged and improved (from the Second Edition) making a book of 376 pages, printed on Royal size paper, and afforded at a low price.

As the number of notices and recommendations of the work are large, we select but one which expresses nearly the sentiments and feelings of them all.

From the Hon. Judge Richardson, Chief Justice of New Hampshire.

"I have examined the several editions of your 'Stoughton Collection of Church Music,' and have formed a very favorable opinion of the work. It contains a good selection from the works of the great masters of music in Europe; and what adds to its value in my estimation, it contains many American tunes which were formerly in good repute among us, and which I am ready, most cordially to greet as old acquaintances, although they may not be quite as well dressed as some that come from foreign lands. The pleasure we receive from music depends much upon the manner in which it is performed. An ordinary tune well sung is better music in general than an excellent tune badly sung. I do not think the music in our churches will be at all improved by any attempt to exclude our own tunes, and I hope that the Stoughton Collection will be widely circulated.

I am, &c. WM. M. RICHARDSON.

Chester, Sept. 29, 1831.

Dec. 10. 4t.

SMITH ON DIVINE GOVERNMENT.

Just published by BENJ. B. MUSSEY, 63 Cornhill, "A Treatise on Divine Government, by J. Southwood Smith, M. D.' The First American from the last London Edition. 3ti. Dec. 10.

POETRY.

For the Christian Register.

NEW YEAR'S ADDRESS.

The sun renews his annual fires!
The worn and weary year expires;
'Tis well that mortal hearts should learn
Its last advice to man,
And all the changes that have passed
Since first the year began.

For every thoughtful mind may hear
A voice from that departed year;
It tells a story of our life,
And, pointing to the past,
It warns us that the next shall be
A likeness of the last.

Its spring came on in joyous light,
Its summer followed calm and bright,
And when its autumn to the world
Its golden tribute paid,
In winter's whited sepulchre
Its cold remains were laid.

But many a change hath pass'd o'er man
Since first its rapid round began:
How many, in youth's happiest hour,
To all on earth have given
An early, but a last farewell,
And fled to rest in heaven.

And manhood too hath lean'd its head
On the dark pillow of the dead,
And in the crowded hour of life,
When hearts beat strong and high,
Retreated from the glorious strife,
And laid them down to die.

And aged men are gone to rest,
And many a heart with grief oppress'd
Found that the gentle hand of death
From every ill can save,
For care can chase the weary soul
No farther than the grave.

The king hath cast aside his crown,
The beggar laid his burden down,
And thousands in the parted year
Have perished every hour;
No prayer could stay the arm of death,
No strength resist his power.

And what are we who yet remain,
That time and death should plead in vain?
Our names may be the foremost now
Upon the fated page,
That shows no kindness to the young,
And no respect for age.

Then, may the living lay to heart
The truth that they must soon depart:
For they who labor patiently
To life's last evening ray,
Shall hail with joy the breaking light
On heaven's great New Year's day.

Selected.

ABRAHAM'S OFFERING.

The morning sun rose bright and clear,
On Abraham's tent it gaily shone,
And all was bright and cheerful there,
All save the patriarch's heart alone:
While God's commands arose to mind,
It forc'd into his eye a tear,
Although his soul was all resign'd,
Yet nature fondly linger'd there.

The simple morning feast was spread,
And Sarah at the banquet smil'd,
Joy o'er her face its lustre spread,
For near her sat her only child.
The charms that pleas'd the monarch's eye
Upon her cheek had left their trace,
His highly augur'd destiny
Was written on his heavenly face.

The groaning father turn'd away,
And walk'd the inner tent apart,
He felt his fortitude decay,
While nature whisper'd in his heart;
"Oh must this son, to whom was given
The promise of a blessed land,
Heir to the choicest gifts of heaven,
Be slain by a fond father's hand?

This son, for whom my eldest born
Was sent an outcast from his home,
And in some wilderness forlorn
A savage exile doom'd to roam?
But shall a feeble worm rebel,
And murmur at a father's rod;
Shall he be backward to fulfil
The known and certain will of God?"

"Arise, my son, thy cruet fill,
And store thy scrip with due supplies,
For we must seek Moriah's hill,
And offer there a sacrifice."
The mother rais'd a speaking eye,
And all a mother's soul was there,
She found the desert drear and dry,
She fear'd the savage lurking there.

Abraham beheld, and made reply,
"On him from whom all blessings flow,
My sister, we by faith rely,
'Tis God commands, and we must go."
The duteous son in haste obey'd,
The scrip was filled, the mules prepar'd,
And with the third day's twilight shade
Moriah's lofty hill appear'd.

The menials, they at distance wait,
Alone ascends the son and sire,
The wood on Isaac's shoulder laid,
The wood to build his funeral fire;
No passion sway'd the father's mind,
He felt a calm, a death-like chill,
The soul was chaste and all resign'd,
Bow'd meekly, though he shudder'd still.

[illegible] on the mountain's brow they stood,
With smiling wonder Isaac cries,
"My father! lo the fire and wood,
But where's the lamb for sacrifice?"

The holy Spirit stay'd his mind,
While Abraham answer'd low and calm,
With steady voice and look resign'd,
"God will himself provide the lamb."

But lo! the father bound his son,
And laid him on the funeral pile,
And then stretch'd forth his trembling hand,
And took the knife to slay his child;
While Abraham rais'd the blade full high,
To execute his God's command,
An angel's voice as from the sky,
Cried "Abraham, spare thy only son."

But let no pen profane like mine,
On holiest themes too rashly dare.
Turn to the book of books divine,
And read the precious promise there;
Ages on ages roll'd away,
At length the hour appointed came,
When on the mountain Calvary,
God did himself provide the lamb.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE CELEBRATED BLIND TEACHER.

The following highly interesting account of Mr Nelson, an able teacher of a large classical school in New York, is extracted from the memoir of Rev. Edmund D. Griffin, prefixed to the volumes of his "Remains" recently published. It furnishes, as his biographer remarks, a most extraordinary example of successful perseverance under the most discouraging circumstances. Mr Griffin was, previously to his entering college, one of the pupils of Mr Nelson.

The life of Mr Nelson was a striking exemplification of that resolution which conquers fortune. Total blindness, after a long gradual advance, came upon him about his twentieth year, when terminating his college course. It found him poor, and left him to all appearance both penniless and wretched, with two sisters to maintain, without money, without friends, without a profession, and without sight. Under such an accumulation of griefs, most minds would have sunk, but with him it was otherwise. At all times proud and resolute, his spirit rose at once into what might be termed a fierceness of independence. He resolved within himself to be indebted for support to no hand but his own. His classical education, which from his feeble vision, had been necessarily imperfect, he now determined to complete, and immediately entered upon the apparently hopeless task, with a view to fit himself as a teacher of youth. He instructed his sisters in the pronunciation of Greek and Latin, and employed one or other constantly in the task of reading aloud to him the classics usually taught in the schools. A naturally faithful memory, spurred on by such strong excitement, performed its oft-repeated miracles; and in a space of time incredibly short, he became master of their contents, even to the minutest points of critical reading. In illustration of this, the author remembers on one occasion, that a dispute having arisen between Mr N. and the Classical Professor of the College, as to the construction of a passage in Virgil, from which his students were reciting, the Professor appealed to the circumstance of a comma in the sentence as conclusive of the question. "True," said Mr N. coloring with strong emotion; "but permit me to observe," added he, turning his sightless eyeballs towards the book he held in his hand, "that in my *Heyne* edition it is a colon, and not a comma." At this period, a gentleman who incidently became acquainted with his history, in a feeling somewhere between pity and confidence, placed his two sons under his charge, with a view to enable him to try the experiment. A few months, trial was sufficient; he then fearlessly appeared before the public, and at once challenged a comparison with the best established classical schools of the city. The novelty and boldness of the attempt attracted general attention; the lofty confidence he displayed in himself excited respect; and soon his untiring assiduity, his real knowledge, and a burning zeal, which knowing no bounds in his own devotion to his scholars, awakened somewhat of a corresponding spirit in their minds, completed the conquest. His reputation spread daily, scholars flocked to him in crowds, competition sunk before him, and in the course of a very few years, he found himself in the enjoyment of an income superior to that of any college patronage in the United States—with to him the infinitely higher gratification of having risen above the pity of the world, and fought his own blind way to honorable independence.

UTILITY.

We extract from the January number of the North American Review, the following seasonable remarks on what is called the practical spirit of the present age.

With us, the spirit of the age is clamorous for utility,—for visible, tangible utility,—for bare, brawny, muscular utility. We would be roused to action by the voice of the populace, and the sounds of the crowded mart, and not 'lulled asleep in shady idleness with poet's pastimes.' We are swallowed up in schemes for gain, and engrossed with contrivances for bodily enjoyments, as if this particle of dust were immortal,—as if the soul needed no aliment, and the mind no raiment. We glory in the extent of our territory, in our rapidly increasing population, in our agricultural privileges, and our commercial advantages. We boast of the magnificence and beauty of our natural scenery,—of the various climates of our sky,—the summers of our Northern regions,—the salubrious winters of the South, and the various products of our soil, from the pines of our Northern highlands to the palm tree and aloes of our Southern frontier. We boast of the increase and extent of our physical strength, the sound of populous cities, breaking the silence and solitude of our Western territories,—plantations conquered from the forest, and gardens springing up in the wilderness. Yet the true glory of a nation consists not in the extent of its territory, the pomp of its forests, the majesty of its rivers, the height of its mountains, and the beauty of its sky; but in the extent of its mental power,—the majesty of its intellect,—the height and depth and purity of its moral nature. It consists not in what nature has given to the body, but in what nature and education have given to the mind:—not in the world around us, but the world within us:—not in the circumstances of fortune, but in the attributes of the soul:—not in the corruptible, transitory, and perishable forms of matter, but in the incorruptible, the permanent, the imperishable mind. True greatness is the greatness of the mind;—the true glory of a nation is moral and intellectual pre-eminence.

POETRY.

From the same article we take the following beautiful description of the purposes and effects of poetry.

The legitimate tendency of poetry is to exalt rather than to debase,—to purify, rather than to corrupt. Read the inspired pages of the Hebrew prophets; the eloquent aspirations of the Psalmist! Where did ever the spirit of devotion bear up the soul more steadily and loftily, than in the language of their poetry? And where has poetry been more exalted, more spirit-stirring, more admirable, or more beautiful, than when thus soaring upwards on the wings of sublime devotion, the darkness and shadows of earth beneath it, and from above the brightness of an opened heaven pouring around it? It is true, the poetic talent may be, for it has been, most lamentably perverted. But when poetry is thus perverted,—when it thus forgets its native sky to grovel in what it base, sensual, and depraved,—though it may not have lost all its original brightness, nor appear less than 'the excess of glory obscured,' yet its birth-right has been sold, its strength has been blasted, and its spirit wears 'deep scars of thunder.'

It does not, then, appear to be the necessary nor the natural tendency of poetry to enervate the mind, corrupt the heart, or incapacitate us for performing the private and public duties of life. On the contrary, it may be made, and should be made, an instrument for improving the condition of society, and advancing the great purpose of human happiness. Man must have his hours of meditation as well as action. The unities of time are not so well preserved in the great drama, but that moments will occur, when the stage must be left vacant, and even the busiest actors pass behind the scenes. There will be eddies in the stream of life, though the main current sweeps steadily onward, till 'it pours in full cataract over the grave.' There are times, when both mind and body are worn down by the severity of daily toil; when the grasshopper is a burden, and thirsty with the heat of labor, the spirit longs for the waters of Shiloah, that go softly. At such seasons, both mind and body should unbend themselves; they should be set free from the yoke of their customary service, and thought take some other direction, than that of the beaten, dusty thoroughfare of business. And there are times, too, when the divinity stirs within us; when the soul abstracts herself from the world, and the slow and regular motions of earthly business do not keep pace with the heaven-directed mind. Then earth lets go her hold; the soul feels herself more akin to heaven; and soaring upward, the denizen of her native sky, she 'begins to reason like herself, and to discourse in a strain above mortality.' Call, if you will, such thoughts and feelings the dreams of the imagination; yet they are no unprofitable dreams. Such moments of silence and meditation are often those of the greatest utility to ourselves and others. Yes, we would dream awhile, that the spirit is not always the bondman of the flesh; that there is some thing immortal in us, something, which amid the din of life, urges us to aspire after the attributes of a more spiritual nature. Let the cares and business of the world sometimes sleep, for this sleep is the awakening of the soul. To fill up these interludes of life with a song, that shall soothe our worldly passions and inspire us with a love of heaven and virtue, seems to be the peculiar province of poetry.

THE NIGER.

Is now appears that the Niger disembogues itself by no less than 30 or 40 streams; some of them of such depth that it is certain light vessels and steamboats may navigate as high as Timbuctoo, and thus open a commercial intercourse into the heart of Africa. The British government, with due attention to a subject so interesting at once to trade and geography, have directed cruisers to work into some of the channels of this Delta, and we may therefore soon expect a variety of interesting details. Timbuctoo, the fabled city of a terra incognita, will then, it is presumed, become an entreport of African commerce, and that vast continent be thereby opened to the knowledge of the world, and the arts of civilization. Now the discovery is made, we are lost in wonder that for three centuries this communication should have been a vulgar tradition, and that the European captains and traders should have passed this Delta with listless indifference.

ROYAL PRODIGALITY.

Louis XVI. whose unbounded extravagance became proverbial, lodged his dogs and *four footed* spaniels in what were then called sumptuous apartments. Charles X., however, dip not consider the old *dog palace* sufficiently extensive, and accordingly constructed an edifice upon an enlarged scale, the annual cost of which amounted to several hundred thousand francs. The days of the Nimrods are gone; the building has lately been appropriated to a school for primary instruction under the patronage of the Paris Academy. "Thank heaven," says a Parisian wit, "the *dog-days* are over."

GALILEE.

This country, says the Edinborgh Cabinet Library, would be a paradise, were it inhabited by an industrious people under an enlightened government. Vine stalks are to be seen here a foot and a half in diameter, forming, by their twining branches, vast arches and extensive ceilings of verdure. A cluster of grapes, two or three feet in length, will give an abundant supper to a whole family. The plains of Esdraelon are occupied by Arab tribes, around whose brown tents the sheep and lambs gambol to the sound of the reed, which at nightfall calls them home.

UNITARIAN ADVOCATE,

FOR JANUARY, 1832.

THIS day published at the *Christian Register Office*, No. 3 School Street. "The Unitarian Advocate and Religious Miscellany."—New Series, Vol. V. No. 1, for January, 1832.

CONTENTS.

Prayer.—The Obscurities and Imperfections of Christianity—how should we regard them?—On the Proem to St John's Gospel.—Gallio.—Advances made in the Criticism and Interpretation of the Sacred Text in recent times.—Prevalent Spirit of Free Inquiry on the Subject of Religion.—Plan of the Founder of Christianity.—Sir Thomas Browne's Evening Hymn.—*Intelligence.*—Methodist Unitarians—Unitarian Installation—Dedication. Dec. 31.

LIBERAL PREACHER,

FOR JANUARY, 1832.

THIS day published at the *Christian Register Office*, No. 3 School Street, "The LIBERAL PREACHER, for January, 1832.—New Series, Vol. II. No. 1.—Containing a Sermon by the Rev. ORVILLE DEWEY, of New Bedford, Mass. *Subject*—'Working out our salvation a practical work,' from Phil. ii. 12, 13. Dec. 31.

SCRIPTURAL INTERPRETER, *for Dec.*

Will be published on Monday next, by L. C. BOWLES, 124 Washington Street, "*The Scriptural Interpreter*," No. 6, Vol. I. for December, 1831.

CONTENTS.

Translation and Exposition of Matthew v. 21—32; Meaning of the word 'Gehenna'; Poetical parts of the Old Testament; Unity of Sense; Paul's Epistles hard to be understood. Dec. 31.

NEW ENGLAND MAGAZINE.

This day published by J. T & E. BUCKINGHAM, No VII. of the NEW ENGLAND MAGAZINE, for January, 1832.

CONTENTS.

ORIGINAL PAPERS. The New Year; The Masked Cavalier; Is a belief in Ghosts, consistent with Reason?; The American Colonization Society; Hymn to Plutus; Feeling and Sentiment; The Employments of Death; Domestic Architecture; The Dilemma; Virginia; Old Books; The Song of the Fairies; Letters from Ohio—No. 4; The Progress of Ridicule; Dead Letters revived; The Hebrew Minstrel's Lament; A Legend of Christmas Eve; Reform; Sonnet; To Mary: A Brief Farewell.

MONTHLY RECORD. *Politics and Statistics.*—United States, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Maryland, South Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Territory of Huron.

Literary Notices.—The Bravo: A Tale.—By the author of the Spy, Red Rover, &c. The History of America.—By Thomas F. Gordon. A Guide for Emigrants.—By J. M. Peck. Cobb's Silk Manual. The Cabinet of Natural History, and American Rural Sports. The American Annual Register, for 1829-30.

Miscellanies.—Petrified Forest. Pyramids of Teotihuacan in Mexico, Maternal Tenderness in a Sparrow, Fayetteville, Discovery.

Obituary Notices.

Literary Intelligence.

☞ For sale by all the Booksellers. Dec 31.

HOLYDAY PRESENTS.

B. FRANKLIN EDMANDS, Stationer, No. 24 Court Street, has for sale, a well selected variety of suitable articles for Christmas and New-Year's Gifts.

Annuals, &c. Picturesque Annual. Landscape Annual, Friendship's Offering, Keepsake, Winter's Wreath, Forget Me Not, Amulet, Literary Souvenir, Token, Atlantic Souvenir, Christian Offering, Pearl, Child's Annual, Pocket Bibles and Testaments, elegantly bound and gilt, The Christian Library, 6 vols., Book of Common Prayer superbly bound in English Arabesque, Ladies' Pocket Remembrancer, Gentlemen's Pocket Almanac, Also, a great variey of Juvenile Books.

Games, &c. Battledoors, Dissected Maps, Pictures and Puzzles, Dissected Scripture Pieces, Spelling Amusements, Liverpool Railway, Lotto, Puzzle Rings, Chinese Puzzles, Backgammon and Chess Men and Boards, Boxes containing changes of Ladies' Dresses, from the latest Paris fashion, Ditto, containing changes of French Military Uniforms, Traveller's Tour through the United States, a game in which the places are visited and described.

Fancy Articles. Musical Work Boxes, Ditta, without Music, a variety of Fancy Boxes, Pearl, Ivory, Shell, Wood, and Morocco Tablets, Card Cases, and Pocket Books. Bead Bags, Purses, Boxes, and Needle Cases, Slate Books Bronze Inkstands, Painted, Embossed, Transparent, and Changeable Fire Screens, Card Racks, Penknives and Scissors, Forget Me Not Thimbles, &c.

Port Folios, elegantly embossed leather, from $2 to $10; Albums, ditto, gilt, from $1 to $12. Also, an Assortment of Lithographs and Engravings. Dec. 24.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.

Amulet, Friendship's Offering, Token, Atlantic Souvenir, Pearl, Young Lady's Book, Christian Offering, Christian Consolation, Child's Annual, American Girls Book, by Miss Lesslie, Buffon's Natural History, with a variety of small Juvenile Books, Dissected, Maps, &c. other London Annuals will be received.

Brook's Monitor, Ware's Discourses, Jotham Anderson, Formation of the Christian Character, Small Pocket Bibles, for sale by S. G. SIMPKINS, No. 79 Court Street.

WORDS OF TRUTH.

Just published and for sale by L. C. BOWLES, and B. H. GREENE, 124 Washington Street, "A Collection of Stories and Essays, by the Author of the 'Well-Spent Hour,' &c.

Words of truth and words of love,
Of things below and things above
Dec. 31.

TRACT No. 55, *(First Series)* A. U. A.

Just published at the Depository, 141 Washington Street, Tract No. 55, of the first series of the American Unitarian Association, entitled, "The Apostle Peter a Unitarian." pp. 24. GRAY & BOWEN. Dec. 31.

POCKET BIBLES AND TESTAMENTS.

A variety of the Pearl Pocket Bible and Testaments with and without cuts, can be found at LINCOLN & EDMANDS' Bookstore, No. 59 Washington Street. Dec. 31.

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Of American Geography; designed as an easy and entertaining work for the use of beginners.—With engravings. For sale by LINCOLN & EDMANDS. Dec. 24.

SIR THOMAS BROWNE'S WORKS.

HILLIARD & BROWN, Booksellers to the University, Cambridge, have just published,

THE LIBRARY OF OLD ENGLISH PROSE WRITERS, Vol III. containing the Miscellaneous Works of Sir Thomas Browne, with some account of his life and writings. Edited by the Rev. ALEXANDER YOUNG. This volume contains the whole of "The Religion of a Physician," the treatise on "Urn-Burial," the "Letter to a Friend on the death of his Intimate Friend," and selections from the "Vulgar Errors."

SIR THOMAS BROWNE.

"I wonder and admire his entireness in every subject that is before him. He follows it, he never wanders from it, and he has no occasion to wander; for whatever happens to be the subject, he metamorphoses all nature into it. In that treatise on some urns dug up in Norfolk, how earthy, how redolent of graves and sepulchres is every line! You have now dark mould, now a thigh bone, now a skull, then a bit of a mouldered coffin, a fragment of an old tomb-stone with moss in its 'Hic Jacet,' a ghost, or a winding-sheet, or the echo of a funeral psalm wafted on a November wind; and the gayest thing you shall meet with shall be a silver nail or a gilt 'Anno Domini,' from a perished coffin-top."

Hilliard & Brown have on hand a few copies of the two preceding volumes. Vol. I. containing Fuller's Holy and Profane States, and Vol. II. Sir Philip Sidney's Defence of Poesy, and Selden's Table Talk. Dec. 17. 3t.

WOODBRIDGE'S SCHOOL GEOGRAPHY,

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Just published, and for sale by the principal Booksellers throughout the United States, the Fourteenth Edition of "Rudiments of Geography for Schools," with an improved "School Atlas," by WILLIAM C. WOODBRIDGE, Editor of the "Annals of Education and Instruction;" author of a system of "Universal Geography" for Colleges and Academies.

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For sale by the principal Booksellers in Boston, by CARTER & HENDEE and CROCKER & BREWSTER.

Boston, December 17th. 1831.

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Just published by LINCOLN & EDMANDS, the 3d edition of the "Young Ladies' Class Book," an elevated selection of Lessons in Reading, by EBENEZER BAILEY, Principal of the Young Ladies' High School, Boston. The peculiar talents, correct taste, and long experience in public instruction, possessed by Mr Bailey, excited high expectation in relation to the Young Ladies' Class Book; but every anticipation has been more than realized in its execution. It is undoubtedly one of the most elegant and appropriate works, ever presented to Schools, and is printed in a most beautiful style, in correspondence with its merits. All Female Seminaries will be gratified and benefitted by availing themselves of the work. $10 doz. Dec, 31.

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